

**FMCS****FEDERAL MEDIATION &
CONCILIATION SERVICE**

SPEAKER'S BIO



LESLEY KOENIG

**COMMISSIONER
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE**

Lesley comes to us with over sixteen years of experience in the executive management of performing arts organizations and a thirty seven year career as an opera director. Lesley began her professional career at age 17 as a stage manager with San Francisco Opera. At 23, she joined the Metropolitan Opera as stage director, mounting over 40 productions with the company, while also directing in other top houses and festivals worldwide. As a member of the American Guild of Musical Artists, she took part in labor negotiations on behalf of stage directors and stage managers at the Met. During a sabbatical from her directing career, she earned an MBA and an MA in Education from Stanford University in 2001. In 2002, she served as General Manager of San Francisco Ballet for six years where she was First Chair for management in negotiating 14 Collective Bargaining Agreements with seven separate bargaining units with the help of Mediators from FMCS's Oakland office in four of those negotiations, using traditional bargaining techniques as well as IBB and TAGS. Lesley helped FMCS in a day-long training session on best practices in conflict management at UC Berkeley's School of Law. Lesley subsequently held positions as Assistant General Manager/ Director of Production at the Met, Fellow at Stanford University, General Director of Opera Boston, and Senior Consultant with Arts Consulting Group. She holds three shared Emmy Awards for Outstanding Classical Program in the Performance Arts. A graduate of Harvard University, she has lectured for many years on the strategic management of non-profits, while continuing to direct operas until her appointment in 2019 with FMCS.